



**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**

Where to Find Information

Access project documents through the DECinfo Locator and at these location(s):

Lackawanna Public Library

560 Ridge Road
Lackawanna, NY 14218
(716) 823-0630
Call for hours

Key project documents and project summary also are available on the NYSDEC website at:
<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/122928.html>

Who to Contact

Comments and questions are welcome and should be directed as follows:

Project-Related Questions

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NYSDEC
270 Michigan Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14203
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Project-Related Health Questions

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NYSDOH
Empire Plaza, Corning Tower Rm 1787
Albany, NY 12237
(518) 473-9800
bee@health.ny.gov

For more information about New York's State Superfund Program, visit:
www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html

FACT SHEET

**State Superfund Program
and RCRA Program**

Bethlehem Steel

**2303 Hamburg Turnpike
Lackawanna, NY 14218**

SITE No. 915009

NYSDEC REGION 9

November 2021

Notice of Availability: Cleanup Plan Finalized

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has issued the Statements of Basis for the Bethlehem Steel site located at 2303 Hamburg Turnpike, Lackawanna, Erie County. Please see the map for the site location.

The Statements of Basis (SB) presents the remedy selected to address contamination related to the site and why the remedy was chosen. The SB also include a Responsiveness Summary that addresses public comments received about the proposals. The estimated cost to implement the remedy is \$69 million to be paid by Tecumseh Redevelopment Inc.

On May 18, 2021, DEC held a virtual public meeting presenting the Proposed Statements of Basis for the site. The comments received at this meeting and during the public comment period through June 18, 2021, along with the administrative record, were considered in preparing the final SB for the site.

- Access the SB for Operable Units (OUs) 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 and other project documents online through the DECinfo Locator: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/data/DecDocs/915009/>.
- Documents also are available at the locations identified at left under "Where to find information."

Statements of Basis: The following is a summary of the chosen remedies :

- Implementation of pre-design investigations;
- Implementation of a sustainable restoration program;
- Management of nonhazardous contaminated materials in an on-site Corrective Action Management Unit (CAMU);
- Installation of a site cover system in areas where soils exceed applicable soil cleanup objectives (SCOs);
- Expansion of two on-site groundwater pump-and-treat systems;
- Implementation of a site-wide groundwater monitoring program;
- Demolition of remaining site structures;
- Closure in place of several Solid Waste Management Units (SWMUs);
- Additional investigation, evaluation or corrective measures studies as needed;
- Excavation of remaining SWMUs and consolidation in on-site CAMU. Material not meeting on-site consolidation criteria will be disposed off-site;

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- Dredging of contaminated sediments in Smokes Creek, Gateway Metroport Ship Canal, and the South Return Water Trench;
- Development of a Site Management Plan (SMP) for long-term management of remaining contamination as required by the Environmental Easement, including plans for: (1) Institutional and Engineering Controls (IC/ECs); (2) monitoring; (3) operation and maintenance; and (4) reporting;
- Recording of an Environmental Easement to control future land use and to prevent future exposure to any contamination remaining at the site; and
- Maintenance of financial assurance and liability coverage for the site.

Site Description: The Bethlehem Steel Site (now owned by Tecumseh Redevelopment Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Cleveland-Cliffs Steel LLC) is located in an urban area along the eastern shores of Lake Erie in the City of Lackawanna, Erie County. The site is located along the west side of Route 5, comprising a significant portion of the former Bethlehem Steel Corporation's Lackawanna facility, and extends to the lake shore. The former Bethlehem Steel Corporation (BSC) property was used for iron, steel, and coke production since the beginning of the 20th century. Iron- and steel-making operations were discontinued by the end of 1983, and by the mid-1990s, most of the steel-making facilities on the west side of Hamburg Turnpike were demolished. In September 2001, BSC's coke oven operation was terminated. While some buildings remain, most structures have been razed. The western portion, that includes approximately 1.5 miles of Lake Erie waterfront, consists of approximately 440 acres of manmade land where iron- and steel-making slag and plant wastes were disposed.

Summary of the Investigations: The primary contaminants of concern at the site are metals, semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), the emerging contaminants 1,4-dioxane and per-polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), and fill contaminated with petroleum and coal tar. The contamination at the site is typical of iron and steel manufacturing and coke plant operations.

Additional site details, including environmental and health assessment summaries, are available on DEC's Environmental Site Remediation Database (by entering the site ID, 915009) at:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/cfm/external/index.cfm?pageid=3>

State Superfund Program: New York's State Superfund Program (SSF) identifies and characterizes suspected inactive hazardous waste disposal sites. Sites that pose a significant threat to public health and/or the environment go through a process of investigation, evaluation, cleanup and monitoring.

RCRA Program: DEC is authorized to implement the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) program for New York State at Bethlehem Steel in lieu of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). As an authorized agency, DEC adopts and enforces regulations, issues permits, conducts inspections, provides technical assistance, and gathers and processes data related to hazardous waste management in New York.

For more information about the SSF, visit:

<https://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8439.html>

We encourage you to share this fact sheet with neighbors and tenants, and/or post this fact sheet in a prominent area of your building for others to see.

Stay Informed With DEC Delivers

Sign up to receive site updates by email:

www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/61092.html

Note: Please disregard if you already have signed up and received this fact sheet electronically.

DECinfo Locator

Interactive map to access DEC documents and public data about the environmental quality of specific sites: <https://www.dec.ny.gov/pubs/109457.html>

STATE SUPERFUND PROGRAM

Site Location

